

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: 1 March 1963

SUBJECT : Construction of Softball Diamonds on Bureau of Public Roads Property

PARTICIPANTS: Rex M. Whitton, Federal Highway Administrator, BPR  
J. C. Allen, Director, Department of Administration, BPR  
25X1 [redacted] Acting Director of Logistics, CIA  
25X1 [redacted] Acting Chief, Real Estate & Construction  
Division/OL, CIA

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25X1 1. [redacted] of the Office of Logistics called on Mr. Rex M. Whitton, Federal Highway Administrator, and his Chief Administrator, Mr. J. C. Allen, Bureau of Public Roads (BPR), to discuss a revision of the use permit for BPR property adjacent to the Headquarters Building.

2. Background

The original use permit granted by Bureau of Public Roads covered only the West Parking Lot area and access roads thereto. A request for an additional unused area for softball diamonds was refused at first and later approved, but not for the layout which Office of Logistics engineers had chosen as requiring the least grading. Since this work must be performed on limited non-appropriated funds, the increase of about \$7,000 resulting from BPR's relocation of the diamonds was not acceptable.

3. Mr. Whitton was most cooperative but apparently had not been briefed in detail on the CIA request. He indicated that he could see no reason why an after hours softball game 300 feet from the BPR building would create any substantial interference with work in the building. He naturally wanted to check this out. At one point, Mr. Allen said that he too could see no problem provided we were willing to vacate space in the Matomic Building.

4. I told Mr. Whitton that I was glad that this subject had been raised because I was assured that CIA's position with respect to 1717 "H" Street had not

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been properly presented to him. I told him that we had advised the Public Buildings Service (PBS) that we had no overriding interest in remaining in the Matomic Building but most definitely did require equivalent space in the downtown area. Mr. Whitton acknowledged that he did not know this and said that he had merely been told that CIA had refused to move. He spoke very convincingly of the increased efficiency that BPR would realize from consolidating in the Matomic Building and asked if we had any objection to his going back to PBS with our tentative agreement to move into another downtown permanent type (probably leased) office building. I assured him we did not and would, in fact, cover this in our next meeting with Mr. Daly and/or Mr. Ziernicki.

5. Mr. Whitton said that he would undertake to advise us very shortly on whether or not he could grant a revised use permit for the softball diamonds and said that he did not intend in any way to be difficult in this matter.

[Redacted Signature]

Acting Director of Logistics

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